

The City Gardens Club of New York City

**Sponsors and Benefactors are Invited
To Visit Two Exceptional Penthouses
and a Beautiful Rooftop Garden**

Wednesday, May 17, 2023 10:00 am to 12:00 pm



Garden 157 East 72nd Condominium Rooftop



**The City Gardens Club of New York City
755 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021
(212) 737-0138**

www.citygardensclubnyc.org



**Valerie and Mark Mashburn
50 East 72nd Street, Penthouse Garden**

In a 1928 pre-war building off Madison Avenue, old-school charm and elegance pervade this stately penthouse and wrap-around terrace owned by Valerie and Mark Mashburn. Enter the apartment foyer through the private elevator landing into the formal dining room with its beautiful hardwood floor and crystal chandelier. Proceed to the entertainment area of the terrace. Splendid Umbrella Pines frame the window and the white Hydrangeas below. Climbing Hydrangeas wind their way over an arch, flanked by delicate Birches. The North passage is lined with Boxwood, trellised New Dawn Roses, Rhododendron, and Birches. Dark green Ivy and Mandevilla Vines ascend the walls. There are a variety of teak furniture seating areas artfully arranged throughout the terrace. The areas are useful for entertaining, whiling away the day, watching glorious sunsets and gazing at the stars. Note the vista across Central Park to The Dakota on the West Side. On the Southern Terrace Birch trees flank a mature Spirea shrub. Trumpet vines and English Ivy climb the ornamental garden tower. Short pots contain Limelight Hydrangeas. Fragrant flowers and plants popular with pollinators are tucked between the Birches to create a calm, classic rooftop retreat.



**Mrs. Janet York
155 East 72nd Street, Penthouse Garden**

This Lenox Hill building built in 1928 by Cross and Cross for owner/architect, Francis J. Bank features a magnificent penthouse, a merger of two rooftop apartments—one of them originally occupied by the architect himself. This lovely location is the long-time home of Janet York, a noted sculptor, author and breeder of championship Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. Her home is packed with her work in various media, as well as paintings and photos by her equally talented daughter, Torrance York. Mrs. York is the sister of Bunty Armstrong, our late City Gardens Club member. You can enjoy the work of the York mother and daughter while walking through the gallery to the South Terrace. Here you can explore the wrap-around world of acclimated trees and a variety of perennial gardens created over the years by Kevin McCarthy. Continue along the narrow West side of the terrace enjoying the annuals, which are changed seasonally, to arrive at the outside door to the puppy kennel. Sharing the North terrace with the rollicking canines is an assortment of shrubs, an herb garden, an Umbrella Pine tree and a Smoke Bush. Returning through the Living Room, you can admire art featuring her Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, including a winsome group portrait over the fireplace. Decoratively displayed on top of the grand piano are the many blue show ribbons Mrs. York's dogs have won.



**Condominium Rooftop Garden
157 East 72nd Street**

The Lobby elevator opens onto this lovely, shared rooftop sanctuary which offers spectacular views. This terrace is a real plus for residents, including the resident gardener, Lisa Meyer. The large, open-flow space supports multiple weather-resistant teak seating areas, which allow different groups to socialize separately. The condo made a commitment to focus on native plants, and the long-time, non-resident gardener has not only done that but also has selected planters made from only natural, sustainable materials such as stone, clay, and wood—note the wonderful wooden barrels. Fiberglass and plastics are verboten! Multiple plantings enhance each seating area providing enchanting combinations of sizes, colors and textures for all residents and visitors. On the East Terrace, note the charming fountain and purple Clematis climbing up the wall. In the North, note the flat bed planted with edibles for residents to harvest and eat. The Juniper tree to its right was brought here by a bird seven decades ago. Don't miss the low-lying Fig tree originally planted by an eminent judge who, before the formal landscaping, had his own rooftop vegetable garden here.

Garden Design: Skyline Landscapes

Head Docent: Margaret Harbison

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